



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Nashville District

Center Hill Lake

Lake Casts



Spring 2005

Shoreline Management Plan Update

The Center Hill Lake Resource Management staff invites you to attend one of the public workshops scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2005 at 6:00pm at the Cookeville/Putnam County Chamber of Commerce "Town Center" in Cookeville, TN, and Thursday, March 24, 2005 at 6:00pm at Dekalb County High School. These workshops are being held to seek public input on the Center Hill Lake Shoreline Management Plan.

A draft of the plan will be available and we will take written comments for 30 days after the meetings. The draft plan can be viewed on our website at:

<http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cen/rec/>.

You can also review a copy at our office. A copy will be available for everyone who attends the workshops.

We are proposing improvements that will help us to continue to work together in meeting our goal of balancing the use of public land and the protection of finite natural resources for present and future generations. Our primary goals of the shoreline management plan at Center Hill Lake are to establish and maintain fish and wildlife habitat, preserve aesthetic qualities, and promote the safe and healthful use of the lake and surrounding public lands by the general public.

All members of the public are encouraged to attend. Your ideas and comments can help us continue to achieve improvements. Individuals may provide comments at the workshops or in writing to the Resource Manager's Office, 158 Resource Lane, Lancaster, TN 38569 on or before April 23, 2005. Please contact our office at (931) 858-3125 or (615) 548-4521 if you need further information.

Campsite Reservations

The National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) is responsible for making reservations to Corps of Engineers Campgrounds throughout the country. Contact NRRS with your questions concerning the campgrounds. For example, you can find out if your RV can fit on a specific site, which sites are equipped with sewer, along with other valuable information. With NRRS, walk-in camping is only available on a limited basis. If a campsite is not reserved, then that site may be available. However, the only way you will be assured a campsite is available is to make reservations through NRRS. Campground reservations may be made 24 hours a day and up to 240 days in advance, but must be made at least 2 days before your arrival. You may contact NRRS by calling 1-877-444-6777 or on the web at www.reserveusa.com.

Campground reservations are already filling up for the 2005 recreation season. Have you made your reservations yet?



1-877-444-6777

www.reserveusa.com

**National Recreation
Reservation Service**
Reserve *your* Place Under the Stars

ATTENTION BOATERS!!!

On June 4, 2003, Governor Phil Bredesen signed into law a mandatory boating education requirement for persons born after January 1, 1989. Effective January 1, 2005, anyone who meets this age criteria operating a boat (including personal watercraft) on Tennessee waters must show proof of successful completion of the

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's (TWRA) Boating Safety Exam. A certificate of completion issued by TWRA must be kept on board.

Campground Schedule

The following schedule is a list of campground opening and closing dates for the 2005 recreation season. Included in the list is a range of daily fees for sites at each campground and picnic shelter.

Floating Mill:

April 11 to October 24

Campsites: \$14 to \$20

Picnic Shelter: \$50

Long Branch:

April 1 to October 31

Campsites: \$18 to \$20

Picnic Shelter: \$50

Ragland Bottom:

April 18 to October 17

Campsites: \$14 to \$20

Picnic Shelter: \$50

Houseboats: Recreation or Residence?

For many, leaving the office or workplace on Friday and

heading to the houseboat on the lake is the beginning of a perfect weekend. With all the features that modern houseboats are equipped with, they are just like being at home. Some people, however, use their houseboats as full or part-time residences.

Corps of Engineers regulations prohibit this practice, and violators are subject to being issued a citation. Houseboating is an important part of the recreational experience at Center Hill Lake and should be used for that purpose only. For a copy of the regulations governing public use of Corps of Engineers lakes, please call or come by the office.



Keep it Clean

As anyone knows who lives near the lake or has ever boated on Center Hill Lake, debris and trash are problems that we must

all continue to work at together. We will continue to do all we can to help organize and publicize clean-up efforts through our annual Lakeshore Clean-up campaigns and other means, but we need your help. This years Lakeshore Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2005, from 9am to 12 noon. As time approaches, more details will be posted on our website at

<http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cen/rec>

If you see anyone dumping household garbage or commercial garbage/trash on public land, please contact a Ranger at the Resource Manager's Office at (931) 858-3125. or (615) 548-4521.

Know your Boundary

When you build or purchase a home adjacent to public property, please be sure that you know the exact location of the boundary line. Many landowners mistakenly believe that trees marked with yellow paint indicate the exact location of the public property line. Actually, the yellow paint indicates which side of the tree the property line is located on. The line is usually close to these painted trees, but a survey is required to determine the actual property line.

Information on the public property line can be obtained by visiting the Center Hill Lake Resource Manager's Office. If you have a question about the boundary line, a Ranger will be glad to meet with you at the site.



**US Army Corps
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Volunteer Clearinghouse

1-800-865-8337

Give a Helping Hand!

www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

Do you enjoy being in the outdoors, working with people, and sharing your skills and talents? Then you may enjoy becoming a volunteer at Center Hill Lake. You'll experience the pride and satisfaction of being involved and taking an active role in caring for public lands. Individuals and groups are always needed for projects such as maintaining hik-

ing trails, campground or visitor center hosts, shoreline cleanups, and wildlife management work. Everyone has something to offer. Contact the Resource Manager's Office at (931) 858-3125 for more information.

To protect the natural features of Center Hill Lake, the placement of structures, underbrushing, mowing, or the cutting of trees on public property is prohibited without written permission.

For more information, contact the Resource Manager's Office at (931) 858-3125 or (615) 548-4521.



Looking to Catch the Big One?

Several fish attractors and two bank fishing areas are now available for public use. During the past year, fish attractors consisting of brush were placed along the shoreline and in coves around the lake in the vicinity of Hurricane Bridge and Ragland Bottom, two of the most popular recreation areas on the lake. Public bank fishing areas were also created in the cove immediately downstream of Hurricane Bridge Recreation Area located on Hwy. 56 between Silver Point and Smithville. Additional bank fishing areas were created between the campground and day-use launching ramps of Ragland Bottom Recreation Area located off Hwy. 70 between Sparta and Smithville. These areas, along with many other fish attractors around the lake, are marked with signs and buoys provided by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

Meet the Staff

If you're a newcomer to Center Hill Lake, or if it has just been a while since you have had the need to contact us, you may not be familiar with all the Corps employees who work in the Resource Manager's Office.

The Center Hill Lake Resource staff is available to assist you in any way we can. In an effort to better serve your needs, the lake is divided into five areas of responsibility. Each area is assigned to a Ranger. The assignments are as follows:

Tim Dunn - Resource Manager

Vacant - (Area 1) Left descending bank beginning at Casey Cove in Holmes Creek to the dam, including tailwater area.

Ranger Stephen Beason - (Area 2) Right descending bank from Hurricane Bridge Recreation Area to the dam.

Ranger Scott Fanning - (Area 3) Right descending bank from Hwy. 70 bridge to Hwy. 56 bridge.

Ranger Gary Bruce - (Area 4) Great Falls Dam to Hwy. 70 bridge.

Ranger Mike Adcock - (Area 5) Left descending bank from Hwy. 70 bridge to head of Casey Cove in Holmes Creek.



Start Out Safely

Spring will soon be in the air, and boating fever will start to take hold as boaters prepare their boats for another season of fun on the lake. As you ready your craft for the water, remember that boat maintenance includes more than a tune-up or a wash and wax job. Make sure you perform a safety tune-up as well!

Inspect all lifejackets aboard your boat...do they need replacing? Are there enough for everyone who will be aboard? Are they the correct type?

Have you looked at that fire extinguisher lately? Is it fully charged? A fire afloat can be a frightening experience and a working fire extinguisher can make all the difference!

Make sure you have all the necessary auxiliary equipment. Do you have a first aid kit, additional rope or line, throwable cushion, and emergency tools? Check your boat's equipment; are the navigation lights working? The bilge pump, blower, horn, passive ventilation system, and instrumentation should all be checked to ensure they are working properly.

If your boat is an older model not equipped with a motor kill switch, then get one installed before you launch for another season. This device can be a real lifesaver if you are thrown out of the boat while it's moving!

Remember, even the best engineered safety device or piece of equipment is useless if not used or operating properly.



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Resource Managers Office

Center Hill Lake

158 Resource Lane

Lancaster, Tennessee 38569

www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cen/rec

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Center Hill Lake Website

Have a question about Center Hill Lake? You can obtain information regarding a wide variety of topics relating to the lake at:

<http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/cen/rec/>

Information on shoreline management, fishing, camping, and boating is offered. Take a look for yourself, it will become a favorite!



Understanding Corps Regulations

As residential development continues to increase around Center Hill Lake, sound management is necessary to protect the area's limited natural resources. Adjacent land owners can play an integral part in this management by knowing and complying with all Corps regulations and permit conditions. However, not knowing or misunderstanding these regulations can lead to management problems.

Unauthorized tree removal is a common mistake among many adjacent landowners. Remember that no trees or vegetation may be removed without prior approval. If a tree is dead or poses a safety hazard, call the ranger in your area so that he/she can inspect the tree to determine if removal is necessary.

Another common mistake involves burning on public property. Burning is prohibited on Corps property, including the burning of brush, driftwood, trash, tires and treated lumber. Remember to check with the county and state agencies for any additional burn bans or regulations.

If you have any questions about these regulations or would like to report any unauthorized activity, please contact our office.